

# SAINT MARY of the Assumption



Roman Catholic Church  
Manchester, Michigan



REVEREND FR. BOSCO PADAMATTUMMAL  
Administrator

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WEEKEND MASSES:

Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am

Vigil Mass Saturday at 5:00 pm

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ♦ JANUARY 16, 2022

## OF SIGNS AND MIRACLES

– Fr. Bosco Padamattummal –

**T**HE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE, HOLY MATRIMONY, unites an individual man from one family and an individual woman from another family together into a mysterious union whereby the two become one new family. In the heart of mankind – no matter the place or culture or religion – weddings are universally happy and festive events.

**In the village of Cana in the region of Galilee,** Jesus was invited to a wedding. And John carefully notes that this wedding happened “on the third day”... the third day since His baptism when the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit descended on Him as a dove, and a voice from above said, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.” And even then, Jesus does not really want to go public with His ministry as long as John the Baptist is still active. So, when His mother Mary asks Him to do something about the potential disaster at this wedding, He tells her, “My hour has not yet come.”

**John writes, “This, the first of His signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested His glory. And His disciples believed in Him.”** When John writes, “This was the first of His

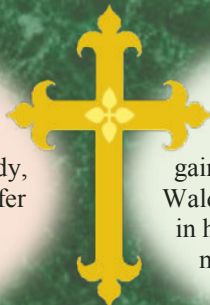
signs,” he means that there are more to follow. John records seven altogether. Matthew, Mark and Luke call them “miracles,” but John calls them signs. “Signs” are something that points to something beyond itself.

**When we see dark clouds in the sky, we know that this is a “sign”** that it will probably rain or snow. What Jesus does here at this wedding in Cana is a miracle; that is for sure. You have got to believe that this was a miracle, or you’ll never see the sign. As I said, John reports on seven of these signs in his gospel. He organizes his whole gospel around these signs. And then at the end of his gospel, John writes, “Jesus did many other signs which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may believe and by believing have life in His name” (John 20:31).

– continued on p. 2

### BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO CINDY MARIE!

The 30th birthday of Cindy Marie Remski, daughter of Frank & Cindy, was this past January 8. Let us offer a special prayer in Cindy Marie’s honor and in thanks to our dear Lord for the many ways Cindy Marie has blessed us and the world!



### “SCRIPTURE VICTOR”!

This is the title young Mark Nashif gained after Bible Study leader Lynn Waldecker challenged each of the boys in her student group to commit to mind and heart 10 Scriptural affirmations. Mark mastered them all!

*“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.” (Mt 5:8)*

**St. Mary's Parish Weekly Calendar ♦ Jan. 15-23, 2022**  
Mass Intention [requested by], & parish activities

<b>SAT. JAN. 15</b>	<i>Weekday (opt. mem. Blessed Virgin Mary)</i>
I Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10: la Mk 2:13-17	3:30-4:30pm Confession ➤ <b>5:00pm Vigil MASS for the 2nd Sunday in Ord. Time:</b> ☩ Victoria Curley [ <i>Tim &amp; Kim Gouvens</i> ]
<b>SUN. JAN. 16</b>	<i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Is 62:1-5 1 Cor 12:4-11 Jn 2:1-11	8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession Coffee Hour after each of today's Masses ➤ <b>8:30am MASS: For the People</b> ➤ <b>10:30am MASS:</b> ☩ Mike Stem [ <i>Bill &amp; Astrida Punches</i> ]
<b>MON. JAN. 17</b>	<i>Memorial: St. Anthony, Abbot</i>
I Sm 15:16-23 Mk2:18-22	➤ <b>12:10pm MASS:</b> ☩ Jerry Damian [ <i>His loving wife Claudia Damian</i> ] 3:30-4:45pm Rel Ed Classes / PC 1st Reconciliation (Fr. Bosco, church) 6:00pm Staff meeting / FFH 7:00pm Evangelization Team / FFH
<b>TUES. JAN. 18</b>	<i>Weekday</i>
I Sm 16:1-13 Mk2:23-28	➤ <b>8:30am MASS:</b> ☩ Leon Ball [ <i>John &amp; Beth Ball</i> ]
<b>WED. JAN. 19</b>	<i>Weekday</i>
I Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 Mk 3:1-6	➤ <b>8:30am MASS:</b> ☩ Walter Radisovich [ <i>Inge &amp; Pete Roncoli</i> ]
<b>THUR. JAN. 20</b>	<i>Weekday (opt. mem. St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr) (opt. mem. St. Sebastian, Martyr)</i>
I Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 Mk 3:7-12	➤ <b>8:30am MASS:</b> ☩ Clara Scheurman (birthday remembrance) [ <i>Alice Kidd</i> ]
<b>FRI. JAN. 21</b>	<i>Memorial: St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr</i>
I Sm 24:3-21 Mk 3:13-19	➤ <b>8:30am MASS:</b> ☩ Sonja Rhees [ <i>The Punches Family</i> ]
<b>SAT. JAN. 22</b>	<i>Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children</i>
2.Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 Mk 3:20-21	3:30-4:30pm Confession ➤ <b>5:00pm Vigil MASS for the 3rd Sunday in Ord. Time: For the People</b>
<b>SUN. JAN. 23</b>	<i>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 1 Cor 12:12-30 (or 12:12-14, 27) Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21	8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession ➤ <b>8:30am MASS:</b> ☩ Fr. Timothy Dombrowski [ <i>St. Mary Parish</i> ] ➤ <b>10:30am MASS:</b> ☩ Walter Radisovich [ <i>John &amp; Tina Doyle and Family</i> ] 4-5:30pm Confirmation class / PC ■

**FR. BOSCO'S ARTICLE FROM PAGE 1, continued:**  
*Of Signs and Miracles*

**That's what each and every sign points to beyond itself.** "That you may believe..." Believe what? Believe that Jesus is who He says He is and what He says He has done for you. "And by believing have life in His name." Once the signs lead you to "believe, and by believing have life in His name," then there is no more need for more signs. The disciples saw what the sign of the water turned to wine pointed to. "And the disciples believed in him."

**Here, at Cana in Galilee, John writes in today's gospel, He "manifested His glory."** To "manifest" is to "make known." Throughout the Old Testament, God manifests His glory in powerful and miraculous ways: in the parting of the Red Sea, in the pillar of cloud by day and fire by night that goes in front of Israel, in the manna and quail that comes down from the sky to feed them on their journey.

**But here at Cana in Galilee, God manifested His glory by turning gallons of water into wine at a wedding.** For you and me, this is a manifestation of the glory of God that is made known only by faith. God manifests His glory in the water of Holy Baptism, and the eating and drinking of the body and blood of Holy Communion.

**John was one of the disciples who came with Jesus to this wedding in Cana of Galilee.** John writes on behalf of himself and those with him saying, "We have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth" (Jn.1:14). John did not tell us whether the bride and the groom saw what the sign that Jesus did at their wedding pointed to, and if they believed in Him. He did not tell us about those servants, they were the ones who filled the jars with water. They knew what went into those jars. They of all people should have "seen His glory."

**Of course, the great sign that Jesus has given us is His death and resurrection from the dead.** This is the "sign of all signs." This was the "sign" that Jesus hinted at to those who refused to see beyond the sign. John writes that while Jesus was in Jerusalem for the Passover, the leadership of the Jews came to Him and said, "What sign do you show us for doing these things? Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this Temple and in three days I will raise it up'" (John 2:18-19). This is the sign that, when He is with His disciples who believe in Him, He talks about very plainly. "And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things... and be killed, and after three days, rise again" (Mark 8:31).

**Sadly, many at the time of Jesus and the early church and even today do not believe that Jesus' resurrection is a real miracle.** They believe that it never happened, that it is just a hoax or a fabrication of the disciples. And so obviously they never see what sign it points to, and they do not believe in Him or have life in His name. But you and I, who have seen this sign through the hearing of the Apostolic word of the New Testament, boldly declare every Sunday in the Creed: "I believe in Jesus Christ... He suffered, died was buried and on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures..." In that proclamation we believe our sins are forgiven by His death on the cross and that one day we too will share in His resurrection; we have been redeemed by His precious blood.

**Since Jesus had so clearly pointed to this impossible miracle of resurrection before it happened,** we believe that His Word is true and worthy of full acceptance and complete trust and full obedience. ✠

**Birthday Blessings!**

**JANUARY 18**  
Virginia Johnson  
Maxwell Woods

**JANUARY 19**  
William Nashif

**JANUARY 20**  
Jeffrey Sangster  
Jesse Sangster

**JANUARY 21**  
Trent Line

**From Bishop Boyea:** Thank you to all who are part of my new "Disciples Together on the Way" initiative that began earlier this month. *It is not too late to join us!* **Each week** I will text or email you a specific challenge focusing on a particular habit of authentic Christian discipleship. Inspired and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, it will then be for each of us to live-out that habit over the subsequent seven days.

To register, simply pick up your cellphone and text **ONTHEWAY** to **84576**. Or for more info and to sign-up, visit [www.dioceseoflansing.org/on-the-way](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/on-the-way) ✠

### It is not too late to help...

Remember the devastating and deadly tornadoes that tore through Kentucky and several other states in the midwest and south two weeks before Christmas? Bishop Boyea is asking each of us to support with prayer and donations those who were in the path of these storms. If you were not prepared to give today, please either bring a donation for next weekend's collection (put your check in a separate envelope marked "Tornado Relief") or mail it to the parish office (PO Box 249).

### St. Jerome: "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ"

The Bible is central to our Catholic Faith. But approaching such a large and complex collection of writings, spanning thousands of years, is intimidating. We need a guide, a compass to get us on course. Time spent studying the Scriptures should be time spent building a personal relationship with the living God. The Bible Timeline series organizes the entire Bible in "start-to-finish order."

**If you've avoided reading the Scriptures because it was too overwhelming to even start, this is an opportunity to make amends – a chance to catch up with other Bible believing Christians.**

The \$25 sign-up fee includes 1yr access to the online videos, a color-coded Bible Timeline chart that chronologically shows the 14 books of the Bible used in the series, and a study guide that helps you key-in to Bible essentials. The 24 in-person sessions will meet on consecutive Thursdays, in five clusters of 4-5 sessions each, spread over 7 months. The promotion flyer and sign-up envelope are in the church vestibule.

If you have questions, contact Dcn Dennis: 734-761-3163, waltersdennis1940@gmail.com OR Bill Kwolek: 734-428-7674 land, 734-775-1124 cell, bkwolek@comcast.net OR the parish office: 734-428-8811

### Seminary Visit

The Diocese of Lansing will be offering a "Come and See Weekend" at Sacred Heart Major Seminary this coming **Thurs. through Sun., Jan. 20-23, 2022**. This event is open to men college-age and older who may be a good candidate for seminary formation. The weekend will include daily Mass and Holy Hour with the seminarians, visiting classes, talks on discernment and seminary life, and time for fraternity and personal prayer. For more information, visit [lansingpriest.org/visit/](http://lansingpriest.org/visit/) or email Fr. Whitlock at [jwhitlock@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:jwhitlock@dioceseoflansing.org)

**The SANCTUARY LAMPS are burning this week for the following intentions:**  
PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK...

- + Carl Kemner  
*(The Punches Family)*
- + Walter Radisovich  
*(The Punches Family)*



**Please Pray for...**

- John Salvatore
- The family of Alice Kidd
- Ron Mann (and his family)
- Neoma Reeter
- Josh Zimmer
- Anna Brogley (mother of Martin Brogley)
- Claudia Damian and her granddaughter Sadie
- Debbie, John, and Julie Huber
- Connie Achtenberg (daughter of Connie & Jim)
- Mary Alice Krzyzaniak
- Tom Leib
- Jean Duffy and her siblings
- Marja Warner
- Ryan Coulter
- Mark Wiedmayer
- Jerry Kripas
- Joe Kirk
- Loretta Widmayer
- Duane Beuerle
- Joyce Stein
- Christy Woody
- Paul Whelan
- Bruce Sommers
- Annie (sister of Lynn Waldecker)

...and for the repose of the soul of  
† Fr. Joseph Tran  
and of † Katy Doyle  
and for their grieving loved ones.

**St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**  
Sunday, January 2, 2022

Sunday Env (39)	\$ 3,423.21
Welcome & Loose	243.00
E-Giving (15)	1,537.60
Solemnity of Mary (9)	334.00
E-Giving Sol. Mary (1)	25.00
E-Giving Christmas (1)	138.90
Utility/Fuel (7)	445.00
End-of Year donation (1)	20,000.00
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Combined toward budget:	\$ 26,146.71
Budget goal:	5,300.00
Amt ABOVE goal:	+ 20,846.71
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OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:	
Bldg. & Maint (7)	\$ 320.00
E-Giving Bldg & Maint.	15.00
Poor Box	32.00
Votive candles	11.00

**Some Ways to Commemorate Roe v Wade Locally**

- ♦ **PRAY AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD:** On **Fri, Jan. 21** from 8-9am, pray together at Planned Parenthood in A2. More info: 734-657-1936 or [plan2pray@gmail.com](mailto:plan2pray@gmail.com)
- ♦ **LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE:** At dusk on **Fri, Jan. 21** light a candle (like our community Luminaria) and let it burn into the night on your porch or front steps as a silent witness to the lives of babies lost to abortion.
- ♦ **HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE** on **Sat, Jan. 22** from 7-8pm at St. Patrick Church, Brighton. Fr Mathias will speak on the Dobbs case.

**Statement on Roe v. Wade Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Life**

**JANUARY 22** marks the tragic 49th anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision that legalized abortion and stripped the unborn of their fundamental right to life. We mourn the heartbreaking loss of over 62 million victims. The Catholic Church stands emphatically and unreservedly for the rights of the unborn.

We look forward with the hope that God will soon bring our nation to a profound awareness of the dignity of human life and a recognition that all lives deserve protection under the law. We are especially encouraged that the U.S. Supreme Court has heard arguments in the Mississippi abortion case, Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization. This case addresses whether banning abortions after 15 weeks gestation is constitutional. Although difficult to predict, this could very well be the case that overturns Roe entirely or in part. We are steadfast in praying that there will be a monumental shift in the Court's abortion precedent in favor of protecting unborn children.

We entreat the faithful to commit to daily prayer and fasting along with other believers across the country for a decision that honors the sanctity of unborn life through the Pray for Dobbs campaign ([www.prayfordobbs.com](http://www.prayfordobbs.com)).

**Think you might be pregnant? Need Help?**  
Alternatives to Abortion  
Call (800) 712-HELP (4357)

**Need Help? PROJECT RACHEL** (post-abortion reconciliation and healing) Call the confidential phone line: 517-993-0291, or email [nlc@resurrectionlansing.org](mailto:nlc@resurrectionlansing.org)

**NEED HELP? "COURAGE"** is a Catholic spiritual support group for those struggling with same sex attraction. "ENCOURAGE" is a separate support group for families & friends. For info in the Diocese of Lansing, call 517-342-2596 or email [caverart@comcast.net](mailto:caverart@comcast.net)

**NEED HELP? An "AA" group** meets Fridays at 7:00pm at Emanuel Church, 324 W Main St. (next door to St Mary's)

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